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PATENT APPLICATION
Q85083

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Toshio TOKUNAGA

Appln. No.: 10/516,691

Group Art Unit: 1733

Confirmation No.: 7047

Examiner: TBD

Filed: June 13, 2005

For: METHOD AND DRUM FOR MOLDING TIRE

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief, each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven M. Gruskin
Registration No. 36,818

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 7, 2006



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 AND 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified), which the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, with the exception of U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed subsequent to June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date; or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 and, therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required. However,

inasmuch as a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) **can** be made, Applicant submits the same concurrently herewith.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Supplementary European Search Report (ESR) issued by the European Patent Office (EPO) in a counterpart application (EP 03 73 6044) citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the ESR indicating the degree of relevance found by the EPO.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees (except the Issue/Publication Fees) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any over-payments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven M. Gruskin
Registration No. 36,818

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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Substitute for Form PTO-1449			<i>Complete if Known</i>		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Application Number	10/516,691	
			Confirmation Number	7047	
			Filing Date	June 13, 2005	
			First Named Inventor	Toshio TOKUNAGA	
			Art Unit	1733	
			Examiner Name	TBD	
			Attorney Docket Number	Q85083	
Sheet	1	of			



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
	AA	3,833,445	A	09-03-1974	Mallory, et al.
	AB	3,414,446	A	12-03-1968	Pearce, et al.
	AC	3,867,231	A	02-18-1975	Casey
	AD				
	AE				
	AF				
	AG				
	AH				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴			
	AI	EP	0 459 728	A2	Bridgestone Corp.	
	AJ	JP	07-016949	A	Bridgestone Corp.	Abstract
	AK					
	AL					
	AM					
	AN					
	AO					
	AP					
	AQ					
	AR					
	AS					
	AT					

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.			Translation ⁶
	AU				
	AV				
	AW				
	AX				
	AY				
	AZ				

Examiner Signature:		Date Considered:
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language translation is attached.